IMPACT OF CHRONIC CONDITIONS CHARLESTON

County, 2002

In the year 2002, the leading causes of death among South Carolinians were heart disease, cancer, stroke, accidents, chronic lower respiratory disease, diabetes, Alzheimer's disease, pneumonia and influenza, nephritic syndrome, nephrosis and septicemia. This report focuses on the chronic conditions of the population of Charleston county, and is compared to the overall chronic conditions of the population of South Carolina as a whole.

The distribution of Charleston county's population is similar to the state population. The majority (42%) of the population in Charleston county are between the ages of 18-44. There are more females (52%) than males (48%). Charleston county has a slightly higher minority population (37%) than the state (32%). When adults in Charleston county were asked about their general health status, 86.4% reported having excellent, very good, or good health in 2002 (SC was 83%).

	CHARLESTON COUNTY	STATE
Population size	316,559	4,107,183
Age distribution (%)		
<18	23	24
18-44	42	40
45-64	23	24
65-84	11	11
85+	1	1
Race (%)		
White	63	68
Black & Other	37	32
Sex (%)		
Male	48	49
Female	52	51

In spite of the overall reports of good health given by the citizens of the Palmetto State, chronic conditions are still making an impact on the health of many South Carolinians. Through primary and secondary prevention we hope to reduce the risk factors that contribute to the major chronic diseases and leading causes of death among South Carolinians.

The chart below contains the risk factors that contribute to an increased risk of developing a chronic condition. These risk factors are related to the major causes of morbidity and mortality among South Carolinians. Some common behavioral risk factors that contribute to the leading causes of death are smoking, sedentary lifestyle, obesity, and high cholesterol. The prevalence of these risk factors from the 2002 South Carolina Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS) survey are listed in the table below for Charleston county.

RISK FACTOR	COUNTY (%)	STATE (%)
Current smoking	29	27
Sedentary lifestyle	44	42
Overweight	54	60
High Cholesterol	10	8

CHARLESTON

Some preventive measures such as immunization were included in the 2002 SC BRFSS. For persons age 65 years and older in South Carolina:

30.6% have not received the flu shot in the past 12 months

35.1% have never had the pneumonia vaccination

Hospital/ED data in the following tables include ONLY those cases treated in SC hospitals. Cases treated in hospitals outside of SC are NOT included.

HYPERTENSION		County						
	Total	Blacks	Whites	Males	Females	Total		
Prevalence (%)	26.4					28.4		
Number of hospitalizations	307	210	97	140	167	5,173		
Standard rate of hospitalizations (per 100,000)	98	205	46	102	95	125		
Median age of hospitalized patients	63	58	73	58	63	63		
Total cost of hospitalization (\$)	4,889,800	3,400,100	1,489,700	2,273,700	2,616,100	79,350,400		
Average length of hospital stay (days)	5	5	5	5	5	5		
Number of ED visits	531	374	157	220	311	7,306		
Standard rate of ED visits (per 100,000)	169	351	75	151	183	175		
Median age of ED patients	53	53	58	53	53	53		
Total cost of ED visits (\$)	358,700	228,200	130,500	143,500	215,200	5,902,800		
Number of deaths*	28	16	12	9	19	366		
Standard death rate (per 100,000)*	9	18	6	7	10	9		

HEART DISEASE		County						
	Total	Blacks	Whites	Males	Females	Total		
Prevalence (%)	2.06					5.13		
Number of hospitalizations	1,739	508	1,231	1,000	739	30,831		
Standard rate of hospitalizations (per 100,000)	560	505	582	741	415	734		
Median age of hospitalized patients	63	63	63	63	68	68		
Total cost of hospitalization (\$)	60,584,100	15,589,200	44,994,900	36,471,100	24,113,000	969,122,700		
Average length of hospital stay (days)	5	6	5	5	6	5		
Number of ED visits	192	56	136	105	87	2,754		
Standard rate of ED visits (per 100,000)	62	56	64	78	49	66		
Median age of ED patients	63	55	63	63	68	63		
Total cost of ED visits (\$)	598,200	151,600	446,600	333,900	264,300	10,617,900		
Number of deaths*	705	241	463	341	364	9,723		
Standard death rate (per 100,000)*	239	266	229	295	198	246		

STROKE		County						
	Total	Blacks	Whites	Males	Females	Total		
Prevalence (%)	2.33					2.38		
Number of hospitalizations	1,043	410	633	448	595	14,317		
Standard rate of hospitalizations (per 100,000)	343	418	304	364	335	351		
Median age of hospitalized patients	73	68	73	68	73	73		
Total cost of hospitalization (\$)	20,783,700	8,616,800	12,166,900	9,185,400	11,598,300	279,819,700		
Average length of hospital stay (days)	7	8	6	7	6	6		
Number of ED visits	250	102	148	102	148	2,732		
Standard rate of ED visits (per 100,000)	81	101	70	76	83	67		
Median age of ED patients	68	60	73	63	70	73		
Total cost of ED visits (\$)	527,400	214,900	312,500	225,600	301,800	6,322,600		
Number of deaths*	243	89	152	88	155	2,816		
Standard death rate (per 100,000)*	83	101	76	78	84	73		

CHRONIC OBSTRUCTIVE			County			State
PULMONARY DISEASE	Total	Blacks	Whites	Males	Females	Total
Number of hospitalizations	940	331	609	365	575	14,524
Standard rate of hospitalizations (per 100,000)	306	308	292	281	333	351
Median age of hospitalized patients	63	48	68	58	63	58
Total cost of hospitalization (\$)	13,469,600	3,944,600	9,525,000	5,118,900	8,350,700	198,700,700
Average length of hospital stay (days)	5	4	6	5	5	5
Number of ED visits	3,067	1,994	1,073	1,213	1,854	37,517
Standard rate of ED visits (per 100,000)	978	1,703	530	809	1,134	914
Median age of ED patients	33	28	38	23	38	33
Total cost of ED visits (\$)	2,014,400	1,250,800	763,600	859,400	1,155,000	30,607,600
Number of deaths*	139	31	107	76	63	1,891
Standard death rate (per 100,000)*	47	34	52	71	35	48

DIABETES		County						
	Total	Blacks	Whites	Males	Females	Total		
Prevalence (%)	9.77					8.33		
Number of hospitalizations	631	404	227	284	347	8,652		
Standard rate of hospitalizations (per 100,000)	200	381	111	197	204	207		
Median age of hospitalized patients	53	50	58	48	58	53		
Total cost of hospitalization (\$)	7,087,100	4,755,000	2,332,100	2,997,100	4,090,000	127,167,500		
Average length of hospital stay (days)	5	5	4	5	5	6		
Number of ED visits	747	575	172	359	388	9,316		
Standard rate of ED visits (per 100,000)	238	554	83	252	227	224		
Median age of ED patients	48	48	48	48	53	53		
Total cost of ED visits (\$)	555,900	405,100	150,800	247,200	308,700	8,261,100		
Number of deaths*	83	52	31	15	16	1,114		
Standard death rate (per 100,000)*	27	57	15	16	13	28		

ALL CANCERS		County					
	Total	Blacks	Whites	Males	Females	Total	
Number of hospitalizations	2,114	924	1,190	796	1,318	24,644	
Standard rate of hospitalizations (per 100,000)	676	883	565	592	777	591	
Median age of hospitalized patients	58	53	63	63	53	58	
Total cost of hospitalization (\$)	49,990,800	20,514,200	29,476,600	24,117,800	25,873,000	605,119,300	
Average length of hospital stay (days)	6	6	6	8	5	6	
Number of deaths*	643	241	394	330	313	8,320	
Standard death rate (per 100,000)*	210	261	187	269	175	203	

COLORECTAL CANCER		State				
	Total	Blacks	Whites	Males	Females	Total
Number of hospitalizations	165	67	98	84	81	2,113
Standard rate of hospitalizations (per 100,000)	54	69	47	64	46	51
Median age of hospitalized patients	73	68	73	68	73	68
Total cost of hospitalization (\$)	5,976,100	2,321,400	3,654,700	3,268,900	2,707,200	80,248,200
Average length of hospital stay (days)	10	10	10	11	10	10
Number of deaths*	62	32	29	29	33	807
Standard death rate (per 100,000)*	20	35	14	23	18	20

BREAST CANCER		County						
	Total	Blacks	Whites	Males	Females	Total		
Number of hospitalizations	96	37	59		96	1,465		
Standard rate of hospitalizations (per 100,000)	31	36	28		56	35		
Median age of hospitalized patients	58	58	58		58	63		
Total cost of hospitalization (\$)	1,458,700	572,400	886,300		1,458,700	21,213,600		
Average length of hospital stay (days)	3	2	3		3	3		
Number of deaths*	53	21	32	-	53	630		
Standard death rate (per 100,000)*	17	22	15	-	30	15		

CERVICAL CANCER		County					
	Total	Blacks	Whites	Males	Females	Total	
Number of hospitalizations	22	11	11		22	222	
Standard rate of hospitalizations (per 100,000)	7	10	5		13	5	
Median age of hospitalized patients	53	53	53		53	48	
Total cost of hospitalization (\$)	329,400	166,500	162,900		329,400	3,668,300	
Average length of hospital stay (days)	4	4	4		5	4	
Number of deaths*	3	2	-	5	2	26	
Standard death rate (per 100,000)*	3	1	-	3	4	3	

LUNG CANCER		County					
	Total	Blacks	Whites	Males	Females	Total	
Number of hospitalizations	132	36	96	79	53	2,154	
Standard rate of hospitalizations (per 100,000)	43	36	45	60	30	51	
Median age of hospitalized patients	68	63	73	68	73	68	
Total cost of hospitalization (\$)	3,982,400	1,013,800	2,968,600	2,535,400	1,447,000	70,474,400	
Average length of hospital stay (days)	9	9	9	9	8	9	
Number of deaths*	176	48	126	102	74	2,481	
Standard death rate (per 100,000)*	57	50	60	79	41	60	

PROSTATE CANCER	County					State
	Total	Blacks	Whites	Males	Females	Total
Number of hospitalizations	152	53	99	152		1,353
Standard rate of hospitalizations (per 100,000)	48	52	46	109		32
Median age of hospitalized patients	63	63	63	63		68
Total cost of hospitalization (\$)	2,454,500	861,000	1,593,500	2,454,500		24,726,200
Average length of hospital stay (days)	3	4	3	3		4
Number of deaths*	42	20	22	42	-	478
Standard death rate (per 100,000)*	14	23	11	38	-	12

^{*}Mortality data were provided by Division of Biostatistics, Office of Public Health Statistics and Information Systems, DHEC using ICD-10 codes.

For more information about

Chronic diseases in South Carolina contact:

Patsy Myers, RD, MS, DrPH Bureau of Epidemiology SC Department of Health and Environmental Control 1800 St. Julian Place, Suite 406 Columbia, SC 29204 Tel (803) 545-4920



Hospital discharges and ED visits, contact:

Sandra Kelly
Office of Research and Statistics
SC Budget and Control Board
1919 Blanding Street
Columbia. SC 29201
(803) 898-9958
skelly@ors.state.sc.us

